

Executive Registry  
C-2803-t

11 January 1949

Dr. E. Alfred Marquard

Dear Al:

It was a great pleasure to receive your letter of 7 January 1949--not only because of the invitation to address the Rotary Club in St. Louis, but because of the pleasure of hearing from you personally. As regards making an address before the Rotary Club, I shall have to decline because we are very busy in Washington now, and, further, I am afraid that I could not give a particularly good address regarding the intelligence organization of the Central Intelligence Agency. No intelligence organization, worthy of the name, can conduct its affairs in the bright glare of publicity, and, for that reason, I am trying as much as possible to avoid any public addresses or public articles or anything similar.

Thanks very much for your kind invitation to stay with you if and when I come to St. Louis. You may be sure that next time I come through I shall certainly give you a ring, but just at this time I cannot give even an approximate date when I might be able to get away from Washington.

I hope that everything is going very well with you and with the best of wishes for 1949, please believe me,

Sincerely,

Signed & dispatched 1/11/49

R. M. Hillenkoetter  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central  
Intelligence

D:RHH/b

Distribution:

Director

Central Records - w/basic letter of 1/7/49.

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Activities and Methods

FILE: *Speeches*  
~~INVITATIONS~~  
(Marquard, E.A.)